



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100

Sacramento, CA. 95814

May 6, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

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Mr. Will Kempton, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Office, Room 3500
For Ross A. Chittenden, Transportation Programming

Dear Mr. Kempton:

SUBJECT: RURAL (NON-MPO) 2004/05-2006/07 FSTIP AMENDMENT NO. 6

The Federal Highway Administration has completed its review of Amendment Number 6 to the rural non-Metropolitan Planning Organization (non-MPO) portion of the 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated April 27, 2005. This FSTIP amendment applies specifically to the grouped project listing for recreational trails projects in the non-MPO regions of the State. As detailed in the enclosure to your letter, this amendment proposes to add a new recreational trails project in Lassen County to the grouped listing of recreational trails projects in the triennial element of California's 2004/05-2006/07 FSTIP.

Based on our review, this amendment proposes increased funding commitments to projects listed in program year 2004/05 by \$30,000. Pursuant to 23 CFR 450.216, project programming information provided for additional years, before or beyond the current FSTIP triennial element, is considered by the FHWA and the FTA only as informational.

The documentation for FSTIP Amendment No. 6 that was submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) did not include the financial information required to demonstrate that the FSTIP, as amended, remains financially constrained. The demonstration of financial constraint for the amended FSTIP is required by 23 CFR 450.216. We again remind Caltrans that all future FSTIP amendment approval requests submitted to the FHWA and/or the FTA for programming approval must include the required documentation of financial constraint, sufficient to demonstrate that the FSTIP, as amended, is financially constrained by year.

We accept this amendment in accordance with 23 CFR part 450 and find that the amendment is based on a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process in accord with the statewide planning provisions in 23 USC 135. The change proposed to the FSTIP by this amendment is associated with a project proposed for implementation in an area of the State of California that is designated as attainment or unclassified for Federal air quality standards and,



as a consequence, is not subject to the requirement that a conformity determination be made. These findings have been coordinated with the Region IX office of the Federal Transit Administration pursuant to the single mode amendment procedures outlined in the *Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, dated July 15, 2004.

This letter constitutes joint FHWA and FTA approval for the inclusion of Amendment Number 6 for the rural non-MPO areas of the State into California's 2004/05-2006/07 FSTIP.

Sincerely,

/s/ Wade Hobbs

For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator

cc: (e-mail)

Randy Steen, Caltrans - Federal Resources Branch
Abhijit Bagde, Caltrans - Transportation Programming,
Terry Abbott, Caltrans - Office of Local Programs
Karina O'Connor, EPA Region IX
Donna Turchie, FTA Region IX

cc: (other)

Non-MPO FSTIP Binder

Whobbs:jf